



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**November 30, 2005**

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**NEW ENGLAND ORGANIZED CRIME  
DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE ("OCDETF")**

**SEVERAL CONVICTIONS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING  
CONSPIRACY PROSECUTION INVOLVING BELMONT, NH-BASED OXYCODONE  
DISTRIBUTION RING**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** First Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Laplante, June W. Stansbury, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Boston Field Office, Rebecca A. Sparkman, Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations Unit, and George Festa, the Director of the New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force (New England HIDTA), announce several convictions from among the 24 individuals from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Florida, and Nevada facing federal conspiracy charges arising from a multi-agency investigation conducted under the auspices of the New England Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force ("OCDETF").

A Criminal Complaint and arrest warrants issued on June 17, 2005, charged 24 individuals with conspiracy to distribute controlled substances (oxycodone) in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846, and conspiracy to commit money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h). An affidavit submitted by DEA Special Agent Todd Prough in support of the complaint alleged that Randall NOE, of Belmont, NH, unlawfully obtained hundreds of oxycodone tablets each week for several years, and distributed them to lower level oxycodone distributors in New England. The affidavit alleges that NOE utilized several methods of unlawfully obtaining the oxycodone, including organizing Boston, Massachusetts-to-West Palm Beach, Florida "shuttles" for oxycodone couriers who would periodically fly to Florida together, visit the same physician to obtain large oxycodone prescriptions, and then fill the prescriptions and turn the tablets over to NOE for distribution and resale to lower-level traffickers. NOE also utilized private parcel couriers to exchange large quantities of cash, in amounts ranging from \$4,000 to \$78,000, for 500-plus tablet quantities of oxycodone supplied by alleged co-conspirator Victor MENDES, of Margate, Florida. According to the affidavit, NOE and his co-conspirators expended vast sums

of cash and laundered their allegedly ill-gotten funds by gambling at Las Vegas casinos and at the former Lakes Region Greyhound Park, at which NOE is alleged to have engaged in drug transactions with an undercover DEA Task Force agent in 2005.

The arrests were the result of a two-year investigation conducted by the DEA, IRS, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, assisted by Trial Attorney Marty Woelfle of the Department of Justice's Organized Crime and Racketeering Section in Washington, D.C.

During the investigation, which included a court-authorized wiretap of two cell phones utilized by NOE to oversee the alleged conspiracy, DEA agents made undercover drug purchases from NOE, Mitchell KRASCO, Stacey MELLOR, and Joseph SILVA, and executed search warrants and civil seizure warrants in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Florida, seizing over 500 oxycodone tablets and thousands of dollars in cash. The Asset Forfeiture Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office has initiated forfeiture proceedings against NOE's residence, 31 Boulder Drive, Belmont, New Hampshire, and a bank account in NOE's name. DEA agents have seized vehicles and jewelry valued at over \$50,000.

Convicted thus far as a result of the investigation are:

- **RANDALL NOE**, 37, of Belmont, NH, was convicted on November 30, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone and conspiracy to commit money laundering. He was ordered held without bail pending his March 14, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **JOSEPH SILVA**, 29, of Wakefield, MA, was convicted on October 19, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was ordered held without bail pending his January 25, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **STEPHEN ASSANTE**, 34, of Cranston, RI, was convicted on October 20, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his January 24, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **DENNIS "Mike" KAMINSKI**, 33, of Concord and Belmont, NH was convicted on November 29, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his March 22, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **STACEY MELLOR**, 30, of Belmont, NH, was convicted on October 31, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging her with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone and conspiracy to commit money laundering. She was released to the supervision of the U.S.

Probation Office pending her February 1, 2006 sentencing hearing. She faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.

- **MICHAEL CUCCHIELLO**, 33, of Las Vegas, NV, was convicted on November 2, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to commit money laundering. He was ordered held without bail pending his February 2, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **STEPHEN LONG**, 43, of Lynn, MA, was convicted on October 14, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his January 6, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **HAROLD MAYO**, 48, of Everett, MA, was convicted on October 20, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his January 24, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **GERALD VALCOUR**, 59, of East Boston, MA, was convicted on November 29, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his February 17, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.

The investigation was conducted by DEA's Cross Border Initiative (CBI) Task Force, with assistance from the Internal Revenue Service and financial analysts from New England HIDTA's Investigative Support Center in Methuen, Massachusetts. The CBI Task Force is comprised of agents from the DEA and the FBI, officers from the Salem, NH Police Department, and officers in the following police departments in Massachusetts: Haverhill, Lowell, Wilmington, the Essex County Sheriff's Office, and the Massachusetts State Police. CBI was assisted by officers from the Belmont, NH Police Department and officers from the following Massachusetts Police Departments: Andover, Burlington, Concord, North Reading, North Woburn, Wakefield, Wellesley, and the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office.

The prosecution is being handled by First Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force ("New England OCDETF"), and Assistant U. S. Attorney Rob Rabuck of the Civil Division's Asset Forfeiture Section.

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